

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 HONG K 11732 250941Z  
ACTION HA-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 INSE-00 CIAE-00  
DODE-00 /041 W

-----105549 250946Z /14

P R 250858Z AUG 78  
FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG  
TO AMEMBASSY TAIPEI PRIORITY  
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2909  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L HONG KONG 11732

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: SREF  
SUBJ: BRITISH VESSEL AVON FOREST

REF: TAIPEI 5658

1. CONGEN DID NOT MEAN TO SUGGEST IN HONG KONG 11404 THAT EMBASSY SHOULD APPROACH GROG AT THIS POINT ABOUT TIMING. WE ARE ONLY SPECULATING THAT SOME OF THE AVON FOREST REFUGEES MIGHT WANT TO GO U.S. BECAUSE OF CLOSE RELATIVES. IF THEY MET CRITERIA OF CATEGORIES I OR II, THEY COULD BE PROCESSED FOR U.S. REGARDLESS OF UK GUARANTEE AND IT WOULD SEEM SIMPLIER, IN SUCH AN EVENTUALITY, THAT THEY BE PROCESSED IN TAIWAN RATHER THAN BE BROUGHT HERE FOR U.S. PROCESSING. U.S. PROCESSING COULD TAKE LONGER THAN THREE MONTHS. HOWEVER, WE CERTAINLY AGREE IT WOULD BE FAR BETTER TO WAIT AND SEE WHAT DEVELOPS.

2. UK GUARANTEE REMAINS FIRM AND GROG CAN EXPECT ALL AVON FOREST REFUGEES TO DEPART TAIWAN WITHIN THREE MONTHS.

3. CANADA IS WILLING TO ACCEPT ANY OR ALL AVON FOREST REFUGEES WHO WANT TO APPLY TO CANADA AND PASS CANADIAN  
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MEDICAL AND SECURITY CHECKS. THERE IS NO RPT NO OBJECTION AT THIS END IF EMBASSY INFORM GROG AND/OR AVON FOREST REFUGEES ABOUT CANADIAN OFFER.

4. PLEASE INFORM US AFTER JVR IS ABLE TO SPEAK WITH AVON FOREST REFUGEES. CANADIAN COMMISSION HERE IS INTERESTED IN KNOWING HOW MANY OF THESE REFUGEES WOULD LIKE TO

APPLY TO CANADA. ANY WHO APPLY CAN BE BROUGHT TO HONG KONG MUCH SOONER THAN THOSE WHO ARE PROCEEDING TO UK.

5. WE BELIEVE IT BETTER IF ALL OR MOST AVON FOREST REFUGEES APPLY TO CANADA FOR REASON OTHER THAN QUICKER DEPARTURE. CANADIAN PROGRAM HERE IS NOT BEING FILLED AND UK HAS OFFERED TO TAKE 61 HONG KONG REFUGEES DIRECTLY. IF MANY AVON FOREST REFUGEES HAVE TO GO TO UK, THIS WILL DELAY DEPARTURE OF THE 61 HONG KONG REFUGEES. IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IF JVR WOULD INFORM AVON FOREST REFUGEES OF CANADIAN OFFER AND PROVIDE NAMES, DATES AND PLACES OF BIRTH OF THOSE WHO WANT TO APPLY TO CANADA. APPLICATION AND CANADIAN PROCESSING WILL BE DONE AFTER REFUGEES ARRIVE IN HONG KONG AND PROBABLY COULD BE ACCOMPLISHED WITHIN TWO WEEKS.  
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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** REFUGEES, SEA RESCUES  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
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**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Review Markings:**  
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